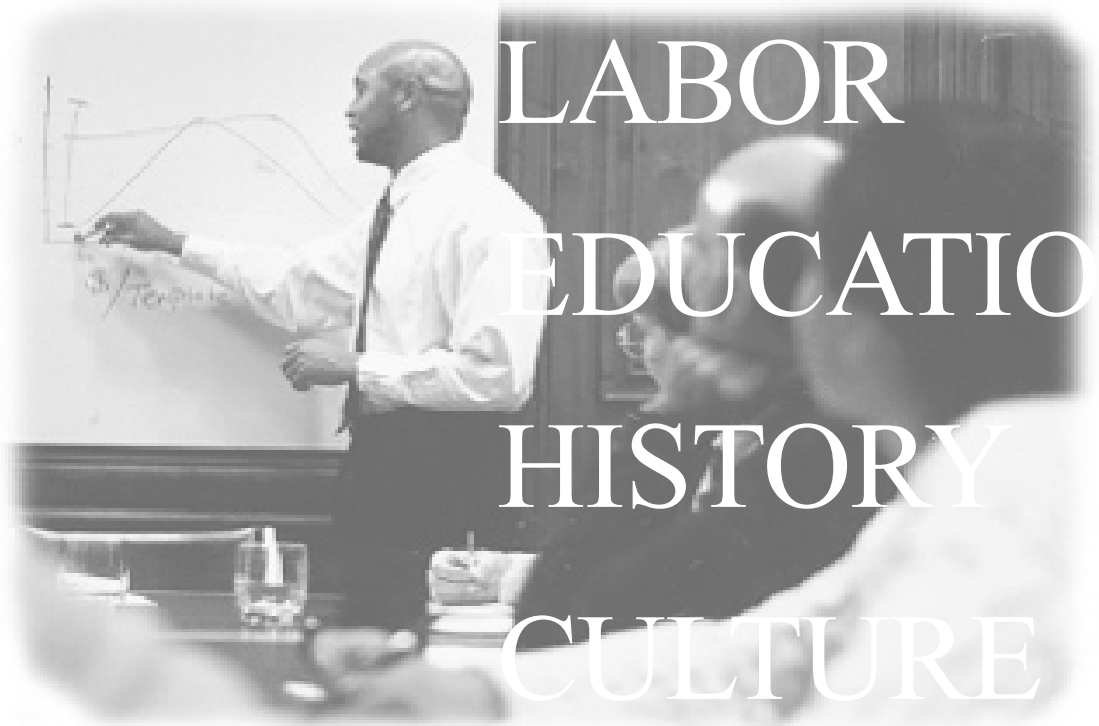


IBERIA



PARISH

“ ...the health of a community is a shared responsibility of many entities, organizations and interests in the community, including health services delivery organizations, public health agencies, other public and private entities and the people of a community.”

– Institute of Medicine. 1996. *Healthy Communities: New Partnerships for the Future of Public Health*. National Academy Press. p. 12



IBERIA
PARISH

Iberia Parish

**Iberia Parish Tourist
Commission**
2704 Highway 14
New Iberia, LA 70560
337-365-1540

**Regional Office of
Public Health**
Larry Richard
Regional Administrator
Iberian Regional Office
Brandywine III, Ste. 100
825 Kaliste Saloom Rd.
Lafayette, LA 70508
337-262-5311
337-262-5237 fax

History¹

The parish of Iberia possessess a special charm, with its many points of interest attracting widespread attention. Organized as a parish on October 3, 1868, it is in the heart of the Evangeline country, rich in romantic history. Iberia Parish was first settled by Spanish colonists from Florida, who laid out the Old Spanish Trail to make a connecting route to their post at San Antonio, Texas. They named the area Iberia after the Iberian Peninsula (Spain). Later the French settled in the area, then the Acadians, and finally the Americans. Three of the largest salt mines in the world are located in the parish.

Culture and Recreation³

Iberia parish offers visitors a place where past and present mingle in true Southern splendor. From the historic district in New Iberia featuring Shadows-on-the-Teche and Episcopal Church of the Epiphany to the world famous Tabasco factory on Avery Island, Iberia Parish has something for everyone. Enjoy a quiet stroll through Live Oak Gardens on Jefferson Island or the excitement of an airboat tour on lake Fausse Point. Indulge your passion for birding in Jungle Gardens or tour the oldest rice mill in the United States, Conrad Rice Mill. The Jeanerette Museum features a pictorial history of the 200-year-old sugar cane industry. In Delcambre, view South Louisiana’s shrimp fleet. Iberia Parish also has a state park, fishing, campgrounds, fairs and festivals.

Parish Seat¹ New Iberia¹

Major Cities (over 5,000 population)²

New Iberia	
1990	31,828
1997 (estimate)	33,539
Jeanerette	
1990	6,205
1997 (estimate)	6,372

Parish Population²

1990	68,297
1997 (estimate)	71,546

Breakdown of 1996 population (estimates)⁶

White	67%
African American	32%
Other	2%
Male	48%
Female	52%
Population age 0-4	8%
Population age 65 & Over	11%

Geography and Statistics²

Average elevation	20 ft.
Land area in square miles	575.2
Water area in square miles ⁴	455.8

Climate²

Average temperatures

Annual	67°
January	51°
July	81°
Annual average rainfall	82.6 in.

Labor Force (1995)¹

Civilian	30,060
Employed	27,850
Unemployed	2,210
Unemployment	7.4%

Agriculture¹

Sugarcane, timber, corn, rice, cotton, peppers, vegetable farming and dairying; oil, gas and related industries; salt and other natural resources; commercial fishing and trapping; hot sauce and pepper products; rice milling.

Colleges/Universities²

(within one hour commute)

University of Southwestern Louisiana,
Lafayette

Public Libraries⁵ 7

Educational Attainment (1990)⁷

Less than 5th grade	8.1%
High school graduate or higher	59.3%
Some college or higher	23.0%
Bachelor's degree or higher	9.0%

Major Employers (Products) and Number of Employees²**Private Employers**

Jeanerette Mills (Underwear)	1,900
Universal Fabricators (Heavy marine)	450
Cardinal Serv. (Oilfield services)/Dauterive Hosp. (Med.)	300

Public Employers

Iberia Parish School Board (Education)	1,852
Iberia General Hospital/Medical Center (Medical)	400
City of Iberia (Government)	250

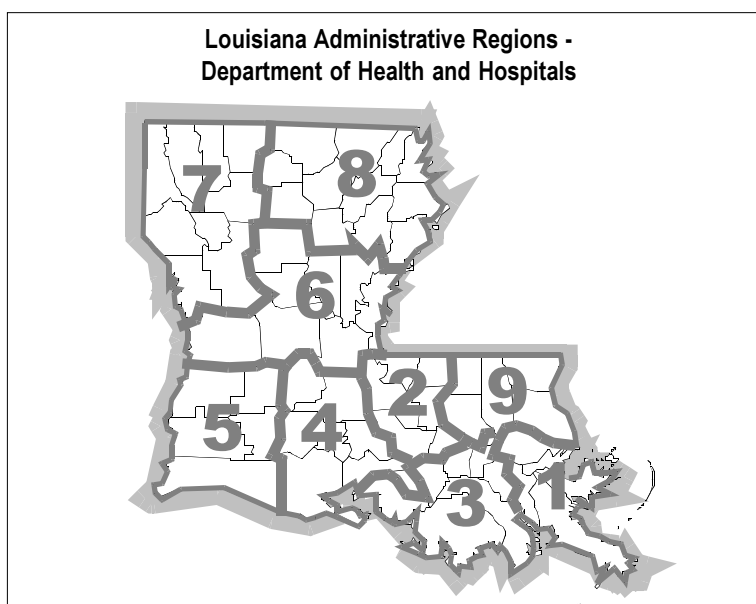
Poverty and Income

Persons in poverty (1995) ⁷	21.6%
Children under age 18 in poverty ⁷	31.6%
Per capita income (1996) ⁸	\$17,799


**IBERIA
PARISH**

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- ⁶ U.S. Bureau of the Census. 1998. Population Estimates. 1998. keywords: parish name <http://www.census.gov/datamap/www/22.html>
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Region 1

Jefferson
Orleans
Plaquemines
St. Bernard

Region 2

Ascension
East Baton Rouge
East Feliciana
Iberville
Pointe Coupee
West Baton Rouge
West Feliciana

Region 3

Assumption
Lafourche
St. Charles
St. James
St. John
St. Mary
Terrebonne

Region 4

Acadia
Evangeline
Iberia
Lafayette
St. Landry
St. Martin
Vermillion

Region 5

Allen
Beauregard
Calcasieu
Cameron
Jefferson Davis

Region 6

Avoyelles
Catahoula
Concordia
Grant
LaSalle
Rapides
Vernon
Winn

Region 7

Bienville
Bossier
Caddo
Claiborne
DeSoto
Natchitoches
Red River
Sabine
Webster

Region 8

Caldwell
East Carroll
Franklin
Jackson
Lincoln
Madison
Morehouse
Ouachita
Richland
Tensas
Union
West Carroll

Region 9

Livingston
St. Helena
St. Tammany
Tangipahoa
Washington